California State Assembly Committee on Health

Health Care Affordability:
Considerations for Controlling Costs in California
Date: October 27, 2020
1:30 – 5:00 PM, State Capitol

Presenter:
Glenn Melnick
Professor of Health Care Finance
University of Southern California

Health Spending Landscape in California

Health Spending Landscape

- Our goal is to build an efficient and comprehensive data and reporting system for California
- Existing data can help us understand health spending in California
 - National spending data
 - CMS
 - Foundations Kaiser Family Foundation, Petersen
 - Non-profits Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI) Employer Claims database
 - State Level California
 - CMS periodically releases aggregate state-level data.
 - The last release was in 2017 and contained data for 2014.
 - Research organizations make projections using consumer survey data
 - A RAND report published by CHCF this past spring had estimates for 2016.
 - The Integrated Healthcare Association
 - claims data from its health plan members and periodically publishes aggregate information.
 - State Agencies OSHPD, DMHC, Others

Health Spending Across Services in California

More than 60% of CA health spending goes to doctors + hospitals

Health Spending, by Site of Service, 2016

SITE OF SERVICE	AMOUNT (BILLIONS)	SHARE OF TOTAL	AVERAGE PER-CAPITA
Office-based	\$59.2	28%	\$1,500
Inpatient	\$59.1	28%	\$1,500
Prescription drugs	\$45.6	21%	\$1,100
Dental	\$16.9	8%	\$400
Other	\$14.7	7%	\$400
Hospital outpatient	\$9.4	4%	\$200
Emergency	\$7.9	4%	\$200
Totals	\$213	100%	\$5,300

Source: CHCF, "Getting to Affordability: Spending Trends and Waste in California's Health Care System", January 2020

Note: Prescription Drugs includes IP + OP prescription + OP retail, non-prescription.

Spending Has Increased in All Sectors – Led by Office-Based, Inpatient Care, and Drugs



Source: CHCF, "Getting to Affordability: Spending Trends and Waste in California's Health Care System", January 2020

What Factors Are Driving Increased Health Spending?

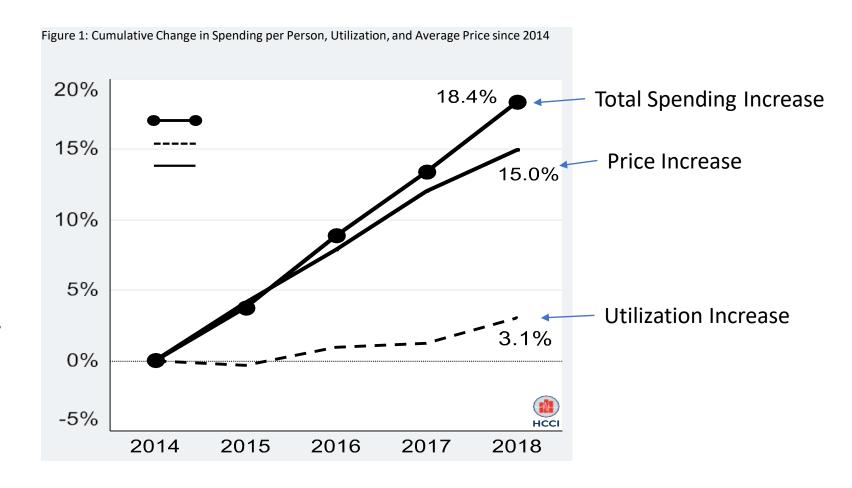
 California's new all payor claims database (HPD) will provide needed data to fully understand these trends

 National claims database analyzed by HCCI and California OSHPD data can provide some insight

Growth in Spending Driven Largely by Price Increases

Between 2014 and 2018:

- total annual spending per person increased from:
- \$4,978 to \$5,892.
- 18.4%



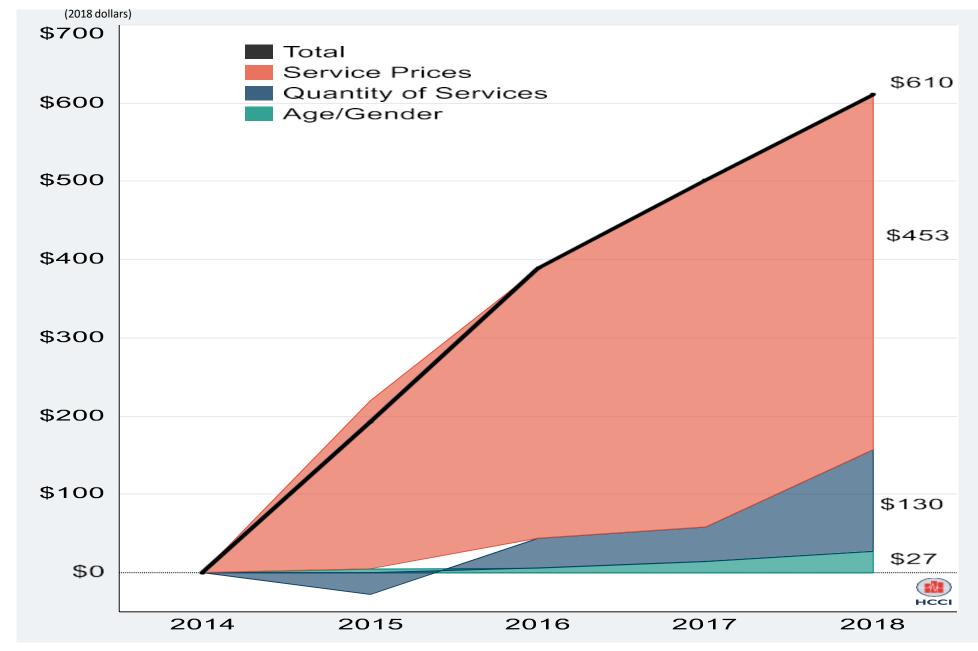
Source: Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI): 2018 Health Care Cost and Utilization Report, February 2020.

Note: Database includes claims for approximately 40 million individuals enrolled in employer-sponsored health insurance annually between 2014 and 2018.

Figure 2: Factors Contributing to Growth in Spending per Person

Between 2014 and 2018, general inflation accounted for \$304 of \$914 increase.

Quantity and Aging/Gender played small role.



Source: Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI)

California Data Show Similar Trends — Price Increases Are Driving Increased Hospital Spending for Commercially Insured Patients, 2008-2018

Hospital Volume Declined (-15%) Spending Increased (283%)

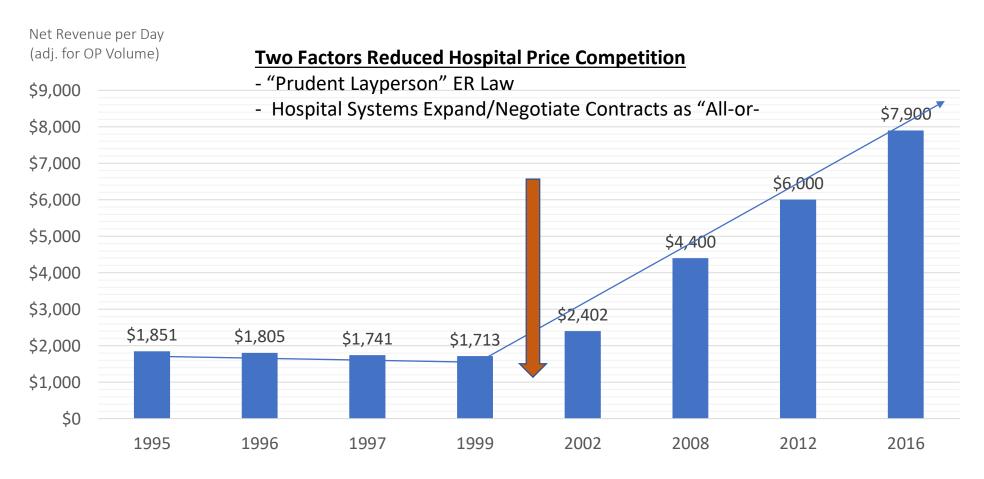


Source: OSHPD Hospital Financial Reports

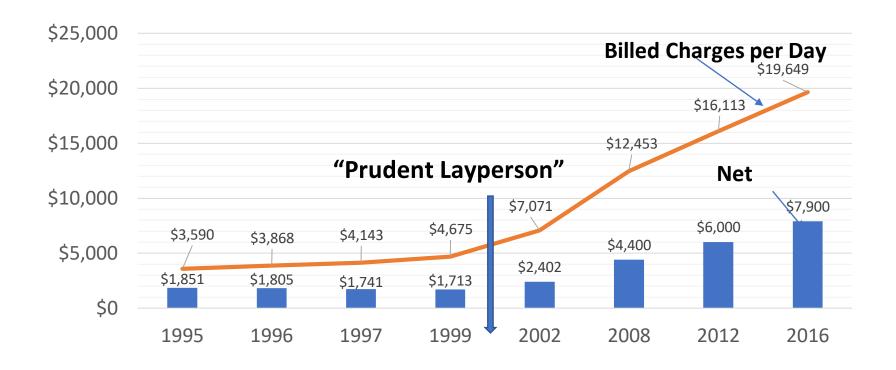
Why Are Hospital Prices in CA Rising So Quickly

- Two Contributing Factors include:
 - Consolidation into large multi-hospital systems
 - CA Hospitals in multihospital systems grew from: 39 % to almost 60 % (1995-2016)
 - Rising billed charges for out-of-network hospital emergency patients

Prices Were Declining in CA – Then Turned Up and Accelerated – What Happened? Reduced Price Competition

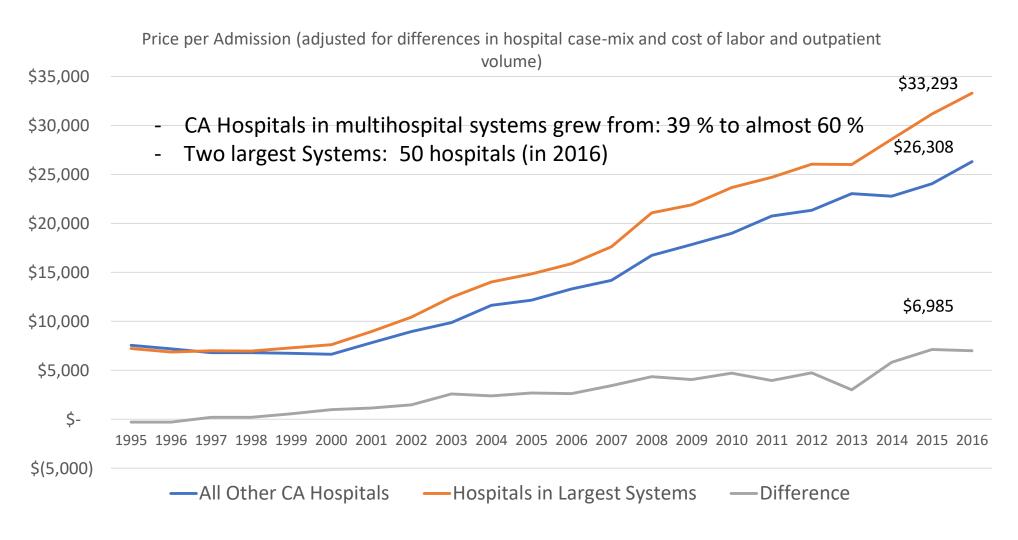


Hospital Billed Charges Surged

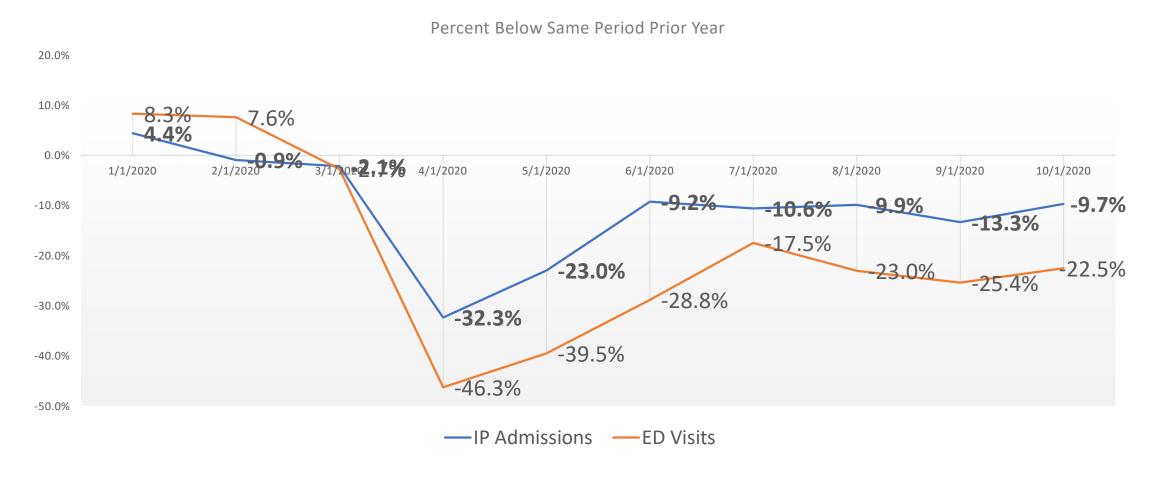


Source: OSHPD Hospital Financial Reports

Prices for Hospitals in Largest Two Systems Were the Same and Then Increased Sharply

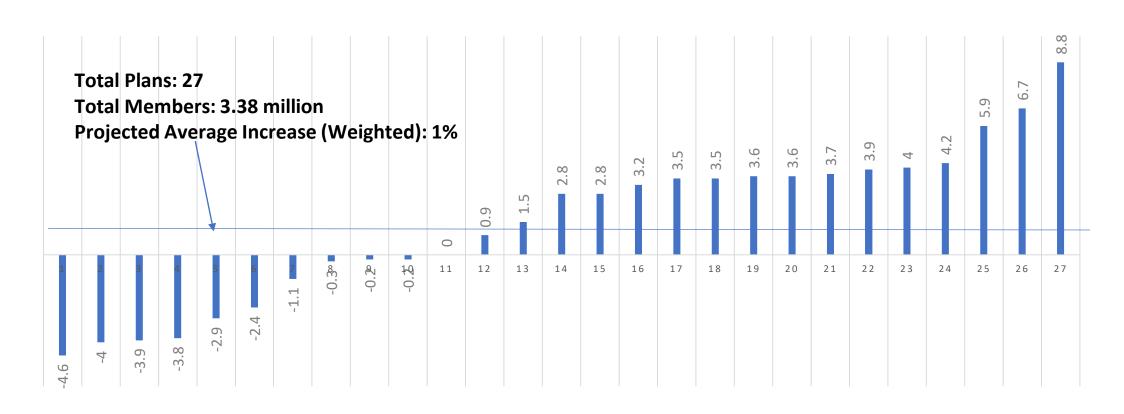


Hospital Utilization in California Is Still Well Below Pre-COVID Levels - Will Hospitals Raise Prices to Offset COVID Related Volume Losses



Source: Collective Medical, Inc. (collectivemedical.com)

Potential Good News for CA Health Insurance Consumers – 2021 Premium Increase is 1% - But, Should It Be Lower and Will 2022 Surge?



Source: DMHC/OSHPD

These Data Highlight the Value of Data to Understand our Health Care System – More Are Needed But We Can/Should Move Ahead Quickly

- Form a Task Force/Working Group
 - Leverage California's existing data systems and many experts in academia, industry and government
 - Design efficient, comprehensive reporting system
 - Phase in over time
- Some examples needed data:
 - Importance of implementing HPD with key elements included
 - Universal provider identifier + patient identifier
 - Allowed amounts
 - Supplemental health plan reporting
 - Data on self-insured market
 - Alternative payment models ACO, Full Risk, Other
- Begin as soon as possible prices and spending are going up as we speak!

A Commission Can Help Californian's Better Understand and Improve Our Health Care System

Will share some lessons from other states that implemented Affordability/Cost Commissions